

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (currently amended) A water-soluble lubricant for warm or hot metal forming, comprising a high polymer compound whose molecule have comprising at least one imide group and whose weight-average molecular weight is 1,000 to 1,000,000, wherein said high polymer compound is (A) a high polymer compound obtained by imidating part of a polymer or copolymer of at least one type of compound selected from among carboxylic acids having carbon-carbon double bonds, and derivatives thereof, and said high polymer compound does not comprise a nonionic polymer.
2. (currently amended) The water-soluble lubricant ~~for warm or hot metal forming according to Claim 1 of claim 1~~, wherein the content of the high polymer compound is 1 to 70 mass percent per 100 mass percent of the water-soluble lubricant ~~for warm or hot metal forming~~.
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (currently amended) The water-soluble lubricant ~~for warm or hot metal forming according to Claim 1 of claim 1~~, wherein the imidation ratio of said high polymer compound is 1 to 80 molar percent.
6. (new) The water-soluble lubricant of claim 1, wherein the high polymer compound is an imidated acrylic acid and maleic anhydride copolymer obtained by imidating a copolymer of maleic anhydride and acrylic acid.

7. (new) A water-soluble lubricant for warm or hot metal forming, comprising a high polymer compound comprising at least one imide group and whose weight-average molecular weight is 1,000 to 1,000,000, wherein said high polymer compound is (B) an imidated alpha-olefin and maleic anhydride copolymer obtained by imidating part of a copolymer of maleic anhydride and alpha-olefin by ammonia, and said high polymer compound does not comprise a nonionic polymer compound.

8. (new) The water-soluble lubricant of claim 7, wherein the content of the high polymer compound is 1 to 70 mass percent per 100 mass percent of the water-soluble lubricant.

9. (new) The water-soluble lubricant of claim 7, wherein said alpha-olefin is isobutylene.